

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

*Kindly rewrite Claim 1 as follows:*

1. (currently amended) A method of purifying L-glutamic acid by transformation recrystallization ~~which method comprises~~ comprising maintaining crude crystals of L-glutamic acid containing  $\alpha$  crystals of L-glutamic acid in an aqueous solvent at a temperature of from 50°C to the boiling point of said aqueous solvent in the coexistence of active carbon until about 30% or more of the crystals of L-glutamic acid have been transformed into  $\beta$  crystals thereof, the amount of said aqueous solvent being an amount not more than the amount sufficient (*i.e.*, ~~an amount insufficient~~) to form a saturated solution of said  $\beta$  crystals of L-glutamic acid.